George Massey <geomassey@yahoo.com>
Tuesday, April 21, 2015 10:10 AM
AppTestimony
Amy Paterson; Rep. Willis, Roberta; Sen. Chapin, Clark
Protect the Community Investment Act and it's dedicated funding.

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>>> Please protect the Community Investment Act and it's dedicated funding.
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>>> Below is a landscape view saved by the Salisbury Land Trust and the Sharon Land Trust with the help of state Open Space Funds. $400,000 in state funds joined $800,000 local private funding, plus we asked for and received the donation of an adjacent $800,000 easement as part of the project. Since then we have spent $30,000 to restore the fields from invasive honeysuckle. This project might not have gotten off the ground without the state resources at the ready!
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>>> The state would not have even been aware that the land was coming to market. It is unlikely that they would have applied the resources for field restoration. The state funding made this a large project that we could accomplish. It is important to remember that these CIA funds are not just directed, but they are also leveraged by local funds and effort. $400,000 accomplished $2,000,000 in critical conservation.

>>> The CIA funding was a compact with the citizens to provide dedicated funding in the areas of open space, farmland, housing and history. Keep the faith.
>>>
>>> And if we miss the opportunity for protecting these pieces when they come on the market, they are gone forever. If we protect them, they are protected forever.
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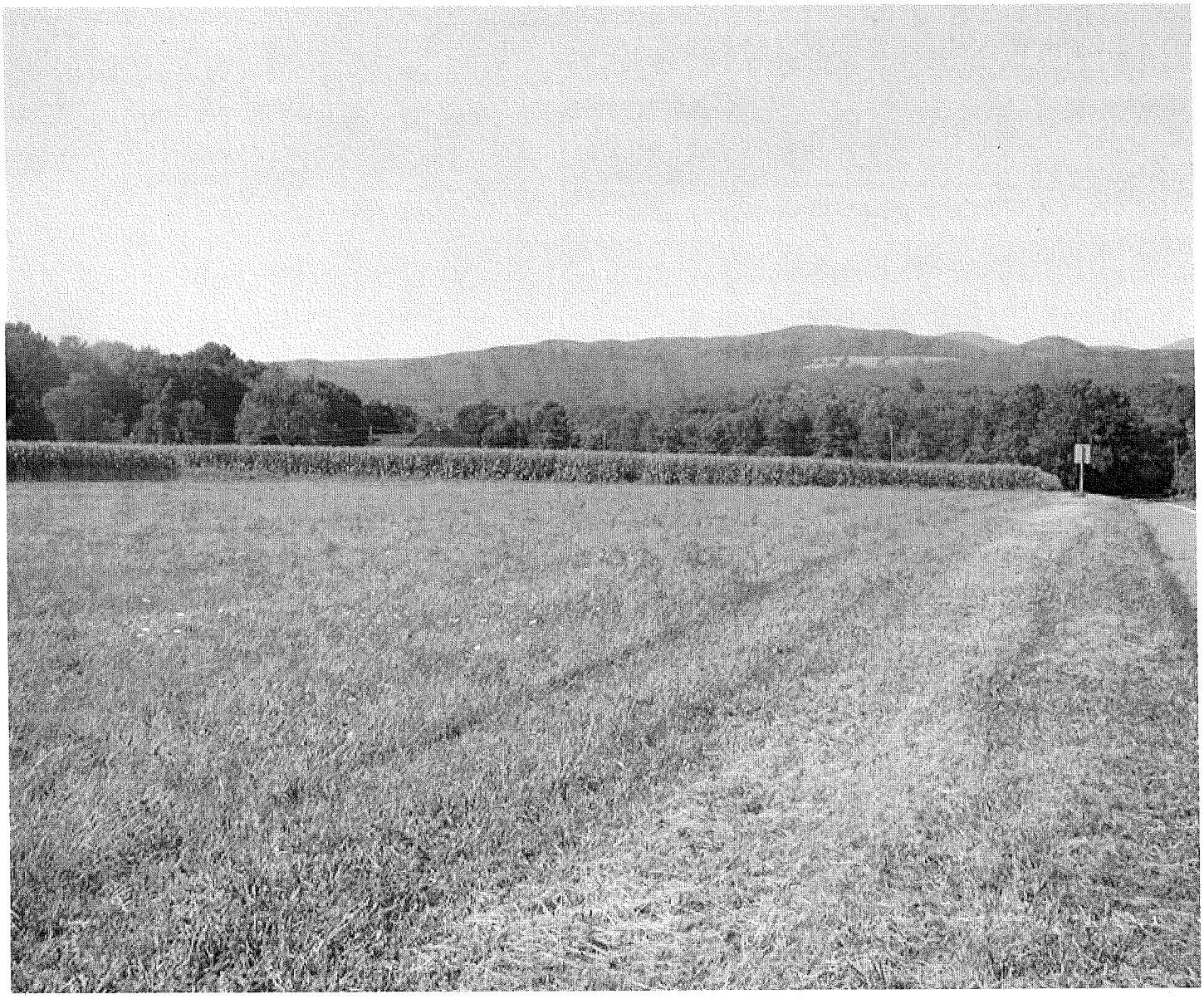
>>> The top photo shows the viewshed along Scenic State Route 41 in Salisbury looking south and west. The bottom picture shows view to the north and west protected by the same conservation project. These views are now protected forever.
>>>
>>> Thank You for your consideration.
>>> George Massey
>>> Co-chair Salisbury Association Land Trust

>>> 860-435-6543
>>> P.S.
>>> Our non-profit housing commission has just received zoning approval to build 6 affordable rental units. We need you and the state behind us as we seek funding for this essential project.



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